

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

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ASST. AUDITOR-CONTROLLERS

ROBERT A. DAVIS JOHN NAIMO MARIA M. OMS

September 11, 2008

TO: Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

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FROM: Wendy L. Watanabe

SUBJECT: GROUP HOME PROGRAM MONITORING REPORT - PERFECT

**IMAGE YOUTH CENTER GROUP HOME** 

We have completed a review of Perfect Image Youth Center Group Home (Group Home or Agency) operated by Perfect Image Youth Center, Incorporated. The Group Home contracts with the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Probation Department (Probation).

Perfect Image Youth Center Group Home is a six-bed facility, which provides care for girls ages 13-18 years who exhibit behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. At the time of the monitoring visit, Perfect Image Youth Center Group Home was providing services for two DCFS children.

Perfect Image Youth Center Group Home is located in Riverside County.

# Scope of Review

The purpose of the review is to determine whether the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement. Additionally, the review covers basic child safety and licensing issues and includes an evaluation of the Agency's Program Statement, internal policies and procedures, child case records, a facility inspection and interviews with children placed in the Group Home at the time of the review. Interviews

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with children are designed to obtain their perspectives on the program services provided by the Agency and to ensure adherence to the Foster Youth Bill of Rights.

# **Summary of Findings**

Generally, the Agency is providing the services as outlined in their Program Statement except for a few deficient areas.

Perfect Image Youth Center Group Home needs to include input from the treatment team in the development and implementation of the Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) and ensure that NSPs are comprehensive and include measurable and attainable goals. In addition, the Agency needs to maintain documentation to show that children taking psychotropic medication are routinely seen by the prescribing physician.

The Group Home also needs to provide children with the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance and encourage and assist children in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

Attached is a detailed report of the review.

# **Review of Report**

We discussed our report with the Agency's management. In response to the recommendations made in the report, the Agency's management completed a corrective action plan (attached) which we approved. We thank the management and staff for their cooperation during our review.

If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Don Chadwick at (626) 293-1102.

WLW:MMO:DC:CC:ek

#### Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, Chief Executive Officer
Patricia S. Ploehn, Director, DCFS
Susan Kerr, Senior Deputy Director, DCFS
Robert B. Taylor, Chief Probation Officer
Bobby Tyler, Board President, Perfect Image Youth Center
Sandra Cromer, Executive Director, Perfect Image Youth Center
Public Information Office
Audit Committee

# Perfect Image Youth Center Group Home Riverside, California 92504 License Number: 336408586

Rate Classification Level: 9

# I. Facility and Environment

Method of assessment - Observation

#### Comments:

Perfect Image Youth Center Group Home is located in a residential community. The exterior of the Group Home is well maintained. The front and back yards are clean and adequately landscaped.

The interior of the Group Home is well maintained. The common quarters are neat and clean. There is adequate furniture and lighting in the Group Home. The Group Home provides a home-like environment.

Children's bedrooms are well maintained. The rooms are clean and orderly and have age-appropriate personalized decorations. There is adequate furniture, lighting and storage space. Window coverings and window screens are in good repair. The mattresses are comfortable, and the beds all have a full complement of linens. Children's sleeping arrangements are appropriate.

The Group Home maintains age-appropriate and accessible recreational equipment. There are also board games, a TV and a DVD player. Books and resource materials, including a computer with a variety of programs, are also available.

The Group Home maintains a sufficient supply of perishable and non perishable foods.

### Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

## II. Program Services

Method of assessment - Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

#### Comments:

Children meet the Group Home's population criteria as outlined in their Program Statement. Children are assessed for needed services within thirty days of placement.

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The Needs and Services Plans (NSPs) are current and are developed and implemented with input from the child. However, input from the treatment team is not included in the development or implementation of the NSPs. In addition, the NSPs are not comprehensive and do not include measurable and attainable goals.

Case files reflect adequate documentation to show that children are receiving treatment services.

### Recommendations

- 1. Perfect Image Youth Center Group Home management:
  - a. Include the treatment team in the development and implementation of the NSPs.
  - b. Maintain comprehensive Needs and Services Plans that include measurable and attainable goals.

# III. Educational and Emancipation Services

Method of assessment - Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

#### Comments:

Children are attending school. Children are provided with educational support and resources to meet their educational needs and are progressing satisfactorily in school. The Group Home's program includes the development of children's daily living, self-help and survival skills.

Children are provided with opportunities to participate in emancipation and vocational programs as appropriate.

## **Recommendation**

There are no recommendations for this section.

### IV. Recreation and Activities

Method of assessment - Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

#### Comments:

The Group Home provides children with sufficient recreational activities and leisure time. Children are provided with opportunities to participate in planning activities. Children also participate in extra-curricular, enrichment and social activities in which they have an interest.

The Group Home provides transportation to and from the activities.

# Recommendation

There are no recommendations for this section.

# V. Psychotropic Medication

Method of assessment - Review of relevant documents

#### Comments:

Children have current court authorizations for psychotropic medication. However, documentation does not confirm that children taking psychotropic medications are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.

Children are informed about their psychotropic medication and are aware of their right to refuse medication. Medication distribution logs are properly maintained.

#### Recommendation

2. Perfect Image Youth Center management maintain documentation to show that children taking psychotropic medications are routinely seen by the prescribing psychiatrist.

#### VI. Personal Rights

Method of assessment – Interviews with children

Sample size: Two

#### Comments:

Children are informed about the Group Home's policies and procedures. Children report that they feel safe in the Group Home and are provided with appropriate staff supervision. Children express satisfaction with the quality of their interactions with staff and report that the staff treats them with respect and dignity.

Children report that they are assigned chores that are reasonable and not too demanding. Children are allowed to make and receive personal telephone calls, send and receive unopened mail and have private visitors. Children attend religious services of their choice.

Children report that the discipline policies are consistently enforced and that there are fair and appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Children report satisfaction with meals and snacks. Children also receive voluntary medical, dental and psychiatric care.

# <u>Recommendation</u>

There are no recommendations for this section.

### VII. Clothing and Allowance

Method of assessment - Review of relevant documents and interviews

Sample size: Two

#### Comments:

The Group Home provides children with appropriate clothing and items of necessity. Children are provided with opportunities to select their own clothes. Clothing provided to children is of good quality and of sufficient quantity. However, children are not provided with the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance.

The Group Home provides children with the required minimum weekly allowance. Children spend their allowances as they choose.

The Group Home provides children with adequate personal care items. However, children are not encouraged or assisted in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.

#### Recommendations

- 3. Perfect Image Youth Center management:
  - a. Provide children with the required \$50 monthly clothing allowance.
  - b. Encourage and assist children in creating and maintaining photo albums/life books.



# PERFECT IMAGE YOUTH CENTER 16761 WASHINGTON STREET FACILITY NUMBER: 336408685 (951) 776-0465 (FAX) 776-9367

# FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

Date: July 5, 2008

To: Candace Rhue, Group Home Audit Spervisor

Fax: (213) 346-9020

Subject: Updated CAP information

Sender: Annette Riggins

YOU SHOULD RECEIVE 4 PAGE (S), INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET. IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES, PLEASE CALL (951) 776-0465



Perfect Image Youth Center 16761 Washington Street Riverside, California 92504 Facility Number: 336408586 RCL Level: 9

RECOMMENDATIONS	PLAN OF CORRECTIONS
1. Perfect Image Youth Center	1. Perfect Image Youth Center Group
Group Home Management:	Home Management:
a. Include the treatment team in the development and implementation of the NSP's.	a. Therapist/Adrienne Chadwick has ensured that the Perfect Image Youth Center's staff as well as the clients are included in the development and implementation of the NSP's. Dr. Roslyn Turner/Clark, Supervising Group Home Clinician and Assistant Administrator, Shirley "Annette Riggins will monitor the NSP's to ensure that the treatment team is involved in the development and implementation of the NSP's.
b. Maintain comprehensive Needs and Service Plans that include measurable and attainable goals.	b. Adrienne Chadwick Group Home Therapist has ensured that the new NSP's are comprehensive and that they include measurable and attainable goals. Dr. Roslyn Turner/Clark, supervising Clinician and Shirley "Annette" Riggins/ Assistant Administrator will monitor the NSP's to ensure that they are comprehensive

	and that they include measurable and attainable goals.
c. Maintain updated Client visit documentation with Psychiatrist, and Psychotropic Medication information.	c. Shirley "Annette" Riggins will monitor each client file to ensure that each file have an updated copy of the Psychiatrist visit and a list all psychotropic medication taken by our clients.
3. Perfect Image Youth Center	3.Perfect Image Youth Center
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Management:	Management:
2. Provide children with the Required \$50.00 monthly clothing allowance.	a. Perfect Image Youth Center' children decided that they would rather receive their allowances every three months, in the amount of \$150. The children felt that they would be able to shop more efficiently this way. Included in this report is a copy of the agreement. Assistant Admin. Shirley "Annette" Riggins and Administrator, Sandra Cromer have monitored the process, and can assure you that the needs of the children are being met. If a need arise before the three month period, Admin. and Assistant Administrator, Annette Riggins can assure you that the need is taken care of immediately. Assistant Administrator, Annette Riggins will make copies of receipts, and place them in notebooks, with the children signature, for future reference.
b. Encourage and assist Children in creating and maintaining photo albums/ books.	c. Since the November 6, 2007 Audit, Perfect Image Youth Center have provided Photo Albums to all the children. The children can personalize

their albums to their own personalities, with the supervision of the staff. Assistant Administrator Annette Riggins will monitor this process, and ensure you that all future intakes will be given a Photo Album upon their placement to the Perfect Image Youth Center.

Attention: Candace Rhue, Group Home Audit Supervisor
Department of Auditor Controller, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple St., Room 515-A, Los Angeles, CA. 90012
Fax to (213) 346-9020

From: Shirley "Annette" Riggins. Assistant Administrator Perfect Image Youth Center, Sandra Cromer, Administrator 16761 Washington Street, Riverside, CA. 92504 Tele. # (951) 776-0465 Fax # (951) 776-9367